

Project File
#4086

9 November 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Development Branch *110m 9 Nov 64*

SUBJECT : [REDACTED] Multi-Format Photointerpretation Station

1. On 4 March 1964, I visited [REDACTED] A to inspect the Multi-Format Photointerpretation Station. The station is a desk sized, two transport light table with a traversing carriage on which an [REDACTED] Widespan Zoom Stereoscope is mounted. A motor driven transport system moves stereo pairs on the same or separate film rolls into position for viewing with the stereoscope. *25X1A*

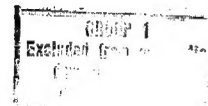
2. [REDACTED] claimed that the maximum brightness of the cold cathode light source is in excess of 3000 foot lamberts. I had no way to check this but the light appeared to be adequate. It has a 10:1 dimming ratio and at the low end of the range, below the useful light level, the rheostat is adjusted to turn off the light to eliminate flickering.

3. A system for masking the unused light surface operates very well although only the rear portion of the table can be masked. Masking under the glass table top is accomplished by means of shades mounted on spring loaded rollers.

4. The film drive operates smoothly and handles slow speeds up to approximately 300 feet per minute. A drop loop makes provision for viewing stereo images on the same roll. However, the loop takes up only 27 inches of film.

5. Each eyepiece has a separate 4:1 zoom system and 360° image rotation. The magnification with 10X eyepieces ranges from 8X to 32X. I obtained resolution readings of approximately 200 l/mm at 32X. The working distance for the optics is only .375 inches above the film plane and it is difficult to position the rhomboids so as to locate stereo images.

6. Since last March, SAC has contracted for a quantity of these instruments that have been modified with the addition of two more motor driven transports. The drop loop has been increased to 84 inches. This table can accommodate two 9½ inch rolls, or four



70 mm or 5 inch rolls, or one 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and two 70 mm or 5 inch rolls. Coverage from two missions can thus be compared.

7. The first of the modified instruments is due to be delivered to SAC at the first of December. I recommend that we evaluate this instrument at SAC Headquarters after SAC PI's have an opportunity to work with it. At that time an NPIC PI representative should accompany me to SAC and assist with the evaluation. [REDACTED] is also interested in examining this instrument.

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8. Upon completion of the evaluation, a decision should be made as to whether one instrument should be purchased at a cost of approximately [REDACTED]

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Development Branch, P&DS